UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF FLORIDA CASE NO.: 0:18cv60767

KIP BARNETT, individually and on behalf of all others similarly situated,

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Plaintiff,	CLASS ACTION COMPLAINT

v.

PREMTECH, LLC, a Georgia Limited Liability Company d/b/a/ Bitcoin Depot, and BRANDON MINTZ, a natural parson,

Defendants.			
			/

COMPLAINT AND DEMAND FOR JURY TRIAL INJUNCTIVE RELIEF SOUGHT

Plaintiff, KIP BARNETT, brings this action against Defendants, PREMTECH, LLC, a Georgia Limited Liability Company d/b/a Bitcoin Depot ("Bitcoin Depot"), and BRANDON MINTZ ("Mintz"), a natural parson (collectively "Defendants") and alleges as follows upon personal knowledge as to himself and his own acts and experiences, and, as to all other matters, upon information and belief, including investigation conducted by his attorneys.

NATURE OF THE ACTION

1. This is an action under the Telephone Consumer Protection Act, 47 U.S.C. § 227, et seq. ("TCPA"). Defendant Bitcoin Depot is a Georgia based company that operates as a buyer and re-seller of cryptocurrencies, including but not limited to, Bitcoin, Litecoin and Ethereum, to the general public through their "Bitcoin ATMs." As of the filing of this Complaint Bitcoin Depot has

installed 125 Bitcoin ATMs across the United States capable of serving 85 million people. Defendant Mintz is, upon information and belief, the sole owner of Bitcoin Depot and upon information and belief, controls its activity with regards to the marketing text messages at issue in this Complaint.

- 2. In efforts to increase transactions at Defendants' Bitcoin ATMs, Defendants sent class members thousands of illegal marketing text messages providing different types of promotions redeemable for future transactions between class members and Defendants as well as advertisements of new Bitcoin ATM locations. These messages were sent by Defendants without first obtaining express written consent to send such marketing text messages as required to do so under the TCPA.
- 3. These messages were sent using mass-automated technology either directly or through a third-party company hired by Defendants to send marketing text messages on Defendants' behalf *en masse*.
- 4. In sum, Defendants knowingly and willfully violated the TCPA, causing injuries to Plaintiff, including invasion of their privacy, aggravation, annoyance, intrusion on seclusion, trespass, and conversion.
- 5. Through this action, Plaintiff seeks injunctive relief to halt Defendants' illegal conduct. Plaintiff also seeks statutory damages and any other available legal or equitable remedies resulting from the illegal actions of Defendants.

JURISDICTION AND VENUE

6. Jurisdiction is proper under 28 U.S.C. § 1331 as Plaintiff alleges violations of a federal statute. Jurisdiction is also proper under 28 U.S.C. § 1332(d)(2) because Plaintiff alleges a nationwide class, which will result in at least one class member belonging to a different state than Defendants.

¹ https://www.bitcoindepot.com/single-post/2018/04/04/Bitcoin-Depot-Expands-to-15-States-to-Provide-Cryptocurrency-Access-to-85-Million-People (last accessed April 5, 2018).

Plaintiff seeks up to \$1,500.00 in damages for each call (text message) in violation of the TCPA, which, when aggregated among a proposed class numbering in the thousands, or more, exceeds the \$5,000,000.00 threshold for federal court jurisdiction under the Class Action Fairness Act ("CAFA").

7. Venue is proper in the United States District Court for the Southern District of Florida pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §§ 1391(b) and (c) because Defendants are deemed to reside in any judicial district in which they are subject to the court's personal jurisdiction, and because Defendants provide and market their products within this district thereby establishing sufficient contacts to subject them to personal jurisdiction. Further, Defendants' tortious conduct against Plaintiff occurred within this district.

PARTIES

- 8. Plaintiff is a natural person who, at all times relevant to this action, was a resident of Broward County, Florida.
- 9. Defendant Bitcoin Depot is a Georgia limited liability company whose principal office is located in Atlanta, Georgia.
- 10. Defendant Mintz is a natural person and the sole owner of Bitcoin Depot residing in Atlanta, Georgia.
- Defendant Mintz, markets, and controls all of Bitcoin Depot's conduct in the United
 States including the transmissions of the violating text messages at issue in this case.

THE TCPA

- 12. The TCPA prohibits: (1) any person from calling a cellular telephone number; (2) using an automatic telephone dialing system; (3) without the recipient's prior express consent. 47 U.S.C. § 227(b)(1)(A).
- 13. A person or entity may, if otherwise permitted by the laws or rules of court of a State, bring in an appropriate court of that State—

- (A) an action based on a violation of this subsection or the regulations prescribed under this subsection to enjoin such violation,
- (B) an action to recover for actual monetary loss from such a violation, or to receive \$500 in damages for each such violation, whichever is greater, or
- (C) both such actions.

If the court finds that the defendant willfully or knowingly violated this subsection or the regulations prescribed under this subsection, the court may, in its discretion, increase the amount of the award to an amount equal to not more than 3 times the amount available under subparagraph (B) of this paragraph. 47 U.S.C. § 227(b)(3).

- 14. The element of "willfulness" is demonstrated by evidence that the defendant acted deliberately or intentionally rather than merely through negligence.
- 15. The TCPA defines an "automatic telephone dialing system" ("ATDS") as "equipment that has the capacity (A) to store or produce telephone numbers to be called, using a random or sequential number generator; and (B) to dial such numbers." 47 U.S.C. § 227(a)(1).
- 16. The TCPA exists to prevent communications like the ones described within this Complaint. *See Mims v. Arrow Fin. Servs., LLC*, 132 S. Ct. 740, 744 (2012).
- 17. In an action under the TCPA, a plaintiff must show only that the defendant "called a number assigned to a cellular telephone service using an automatic dialing system or prerecorded voice." *Breslow v. Wells Fargo Bank, N.A.*, 857 F. Supp. 2d 1316, 1319 (S.D. Fla. 2012), *aff'd*, 755 F.3d 1265 (11th Cir. 2014).
- 18. The Federal Communications Commission ("FCC") is empowered to issue rules and regulations implementing the TCPA. According to the FCC's findings, calls in violation of the TCPA are prohibited because, as Congress found, automated or prerecorded telephone calls are a greater

nuisance and invasion of privacy than live solicitation calls, and such calls can be costly and inconvenient. The FCC also recognized that wireless customers are charged for incoming calls whether they pay in advance or after the minutes are used.

- 19. With respect to telemarketing, 47 C.F.R. § 64.1200(c) provides: No person or entity shall initiate any telephone solicitation to:
 - (1) Any residential telephone subscriber before the hour of 8 a.m. or after 9 p.m. (local time at the called party's location), or
 - (2) A residential telephone subscriber who has registered his or her telephone number on the national do-not-call registry of persons who do not wish to receive telephone solicitations that is maintained by the Federal Government. Such do-not-call registrations must be honored indefinitely, or until the registration is cancelled by the consumer or the telephone number is removed by the database administrator.
- 20. In 2012, the FCC issued an order further restricting automated telemarketing calls, requiring "prior express <u>written</u> consent" for such calls to wireless numbers. *See In the Matter of Rules* & *Regulations Implementing the Tel. Consumer Prot. Act of 1991*, 27 F.C.C.R. 1830, 1838 ¶ 20 (Feb. 15, 2012)(emphasis supplied).
- 21. To obtain express written consent for telemarketing calls, a defendant must establish that it secured the plaintiff's signature in a form that gives the plaintiff a "clear and conspicuous disclosure' of the consequences of providing the requested consent . . . and [the plaintiff] having received the information, agrees unambiguously to receive such calls at a telephone number the [plaintiff] designates." *In the Matter of Rules & Regulations Implementing the Tel. Consumer Prot. Act of 1991*, 27 F.C.C.R. 1830, 1837 ¶ 18, 1838 ¶ 20, 1844 ¶ 33, 1857 ¶ 66, 1858 ¶ 71 (F.C.C. Feb. 15, 2012).
 - 22. The TCPA regulations promulgated by the FCC define "telemarketing" as "the

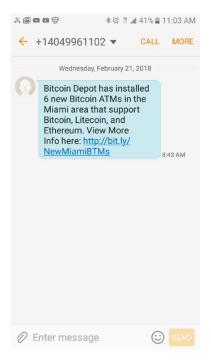
initiation of a telephone call or message for the purpose of encouraging the purchase or rental of, or investment in, property, goods, or services." 47 C.F.R. § 64.1200(f)(12). In determining whether a communication constitutes telemarketing, a court must evaluate the ultimate purpose of the communication. *See Golan v. Veritas Entm't, LLC*, 788 F.3d 814, 820 (8th Cir. 2015).

- 23. "Neither the TCPA nor its implementing regulations 'require an explicit mention of a good, product, or service' where the implication of an improper purpose is 'clear from the context." *Id.* (citing *Chesbro v. Best Buy Stores, L.P.*, 705 F.3d 913, 918 (9th Cir. 2012)).
- "Telemarketing' occurs when the context of a call indicates that it was initiated and transmitted to a person for the purpose of promoting property, goods, or services." *Golan*, 788 F.3d at 820 (citing 47 C.F.R. § 64.1200(a)(2)(iii) & 47 C.F.R. § 64.1200(f)(12)).
- 25. The FCC has explained that calls motivated in part by the intent to sell property, goods, or services are considered telemarketing under the TCPA. *See In the Matter of Rules & Regulations Implementing the Tel. Consumer Prot. Act of 1991*, 18 FCC Rcd. 14014, ¶¶ 139-142 (2003). This is true whether call recipients are encouraged to purchase, rent, or invest in property, goods, or services during the call *or in the future. Id*.
- 26. In other words, offers "that are part of an overall marketing campaign to sell property, goods, or services constitute" telemarketing under the TCPA. See In re Rules and Regulations Implementing the Telephone Consumer Protection Act of 1991, 18 FCC Rcd. 14014, ¶ 136 (2003).
- 27. If a call is not deemed telemarketing, a defendant must nevertheless demonstrate that it obtained the plaintiff's prior express consent. *In the Matter of Rules & Regulations Implementing the Tel. Consumer Prot. Act of 1991*, 30 FCC Rcd. 7961, 7991-92 (2015) (requiring express consent "for non-telemarketing and non-advertising calls").

- 28. Further, the FCC has issued rulings and clarified that consumers are entitled to the same consent-based protections for text messages as they are for calls to wireless numbers. *See Satterfield v. Simon & Schuster, Inc.*, 569 F.3d 946, 952 (9th Cir. 2009) ("The FCC has determined that a text message falls within the meaning of 'to make any call' in 47 U.S.C. § 227(b)(1)(A)").
- 29. As recently held by the United States Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit: "Unsolicited telemarketing phone calls or text messages, by their nature, invade the privacy and disturb the solitude of their recipients. A plaintiff alleging a violation under the TCPA 'need not allege any *additional* harm beyond the one Congress has identified." *Van Patten v. Vertical Fitness Grp.*, No. 14-55980, 2017 U.S. App. LEXIS 1591, at *12 (9th Cir. May 4, 2016) (quoting *Spokeo, Inc. v. Robins*, 136 S. Ct. 1540, 1549 (2016) (emphasis original)).

BACKGROUND FACTS

- 30. In efforts to increase transactions at Defendants' Bitcoin ATMs, Defendants sent class members thousands of illegal marketing text messages providing different types of promotions redeemable for future transactions between class members and Defendants as well as advertisements of new Bitcoin ATM locations. These messages were sent by Defendants without first obtaining express written consent to send such marketing text messages as required to do so under the TCPA.
- 31. Plaintiff is receiving these marketing text messages to his cellular telephone number, ending in 8439 (the "8439 Number").
- 32. By way of examples, such automatic transmissions, received on February 21, 2018, caused the following text messages to be received on Plaintiff's cellular telephone number. See below:



- 33. Defendants' text messages constitute telemarketing because they encourage the future sale or purchase of cryptocurrencies to or from Defendants by individuals such as Plaintiff.
- 34. The website promoted in the text message depicted above solicits the recipient to visit one of Defendants' several new Bitcoin ATMs and engage in transactions with Defendants.
- 35. Plaintiff received the subject text messages within this judicial district and, therefore, Defendants violation of the TCPA occurred within this district.
 - 36. Plaintiff is the subscriber and sole user of the 8439 Number.
- 37. At all times relevant herein, Plaintiff's cellular telephone number is listed on the national do-not-call registry of persons who do not wish to receive telephone solicitations.
- 38. Defendants sent text messages to Plaintiff from several phone numbers including but not limited to "404-499-1102."
- 39. The impersonal and generic nature of Defendants' text messages demonstrates that Defendants utilized an ATDS in transmitting the messages. *See Jenkins v. LL Atlanta, LLC*, No. 1:14-

cv-2791-WSD, 2016 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 30051, at *11 (N.D. Ga. Mar. 9, 2016) ("These assertions, combined with the generic, impersonal nature of the text message advertisements and the use of a short code, support an inference that the text messages were sent using an ATDS.") (citing *Legg v. Voice Media Grp., Inc.*, 20 F. Supp. 3d 1370, 1354 (S.D. Fla. 2014) (plaintiff alleged facts sufficient to infer text messages were sent using ATDS; use of a short code and volume of mass messaging alleged would be impractical without use of an ATDS); *Kramer v. Autobytel, Inc.*, 759 F. Supp. 2d 1165, 1171 (N.D. Cal. 2010) (finding it "plausible" that defendants used an ATDS where messages were advertisements written in an impersonal manner and sent from short code); *Robbins v. Coca-Cola Co.*, No. 13-CV-132-IEG NLS, 2013 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 72725, 2013 WL 2252646, at *3 (S.D. Cal. May 22, 2013) (observing that mass messaging would be impracticable without use of an ATDS)).

- 40. In fact, on its website, Defendant admits to using "autodialed and prerecorded message calls or SMS text messages"²
- 41. Specifically, upon information and belief, Defendants, directly, or through a third-party telemarketer, utilized a combination of hardware and software systems to send the text messages at issue in this case.
- 42. Defendants' unsolicited text messages caused Plaintiff actual harm, including invasion of his privacy, aggravation, annoyance, intrusion on seclusion, trespass, and conversion. Defendant's text messages also inconvenienced Plaintiff and caused disruption to his daily life. *See Patriotic Veterans, Inc. v. Zoeller*, No. 16-2059, 2017 WL 25482, at *2 (7th Cir. Jan. 3, 2017) ("Every call uses some of the phone owner's time and mental energy, both of which are precious."). Plaintiff received the subject text message while he was at work, causing him to stop his work activities to check his phone.

² https://www.bitcoindepot.com/terms (last accessed on April 5, 2018).

43. As outlined above, upon information and belief, Defendants may have employed a third-party company to send the marketing text messages in question to Plaintiff and, as such, are vicariously liable for the TCPA violations arising from said text messages.

Vicarious Liability

- 44. Under the TCPA, as interpreted by the FCC, a person or entity can be liable for calls made on its behalf even if that person or entity did not directly dial those calls.
- 45. The FCC has explained that its "rules generally establish that the party on whose behalf a solicitation is made bears ultimate responsibility for any violations." See Rules and Regulations Implementing the Telephone Consumer Protection Act of 1991, Memorandum and Order, 10 FCC Rcd. 12391, 12397, ¶ 13 (1995).
- In 2008, the FCC reiterated that "a company on whose behalf a telephone solicitation is made bears the responsibility for any violations." *See* Rules and Regulations Implementing the Telephone Consumer Protection Act of 1991 Request of ACA International for Clarification and Declaratory Ruling, CG 02-278, 23 F.C.C.R. 559 at ¶10 (Jan. 4, 2008) (specifically recognizing "on behalf of" liability in the context of a robocall sent to a consumer by a third party on another entity's behalf under 47 U.S.C. 227(b)).
- In May of 2013, the FCC reinforced this issue. *See* In re Rules and Regulations Implementing the Tel. Consumer Prot. Act of 1991, --- FCC Rcd. --- (F.C.C. May 9, 2013) (hereinafter "2013 FCC Ruling Order") (clarifying that "a seller ... may be vicariously liable under federal common law agency-related principles for violations of either section 227(b) or 227(c) committed by telemarketers that initiate calls to market its products or services."). The FCC rejected a narrow view of TCPA liability, including the assertion that a seller's liability requires a finding of formal agency and immediate direction and control over the third-party who placed the

telemarketing call. Id. n.107.

48. The 2013 FCC Order further explained:

"To provide guidance in this area, we find that the following are illustrative examples of evidence that may demonstrate that the telemarketer is the seller's authorized representative with apparent authority to make the seller vicariously liable for the telemarketer's section 227(b) violations. For example, apparent authority may be supported by evidence that the seller allows the outside sales entity access to information and systems that normally would be within the seller's exclusive control, including: access to detailed information regarding the nature and pricing of the seller's products and services or to the seller's customer information. The ability by the outside sales entity to enter consumer information into the seller's sales or customer systems, as well as the authority to use the seller's trade name, trademark and service mark may also be relevant. It may also be persuasive that the seller approved, wrote or reviewed the outside entity's telemarketing scripts. Finally, a seller would be responsible under the TCPA for the unauthorized conduct of a third-party telemarketer that is otherwise authorized to market on the seller's behalf if the seller knew (or reasonably should have known) that the telemarketer was violating the TCPA on the seller's behalf and the seller failed to take effective steps within its power to force the telemarketer to cease that conduct. At a minimum, evidence of these kinds of relationships – which consumers may acquire through discovery, if they are not independently privy to such information – should be sufficient to place upon the seller the burden of demonstrating that a reasonable consumer would not sensibly assume that the telemarketer was acting as the seller's authorized agent.

"[] In sum, under our current rules and administrative precedent interpreting and implementing sections 227(b) and 227(c), we do not think that an action taken for the benefit of a seller by a third-party retailer, without more, is sufficient to trigger the liability of a seller under section either section 227(c) or section 227(b). However, we see no reason that a seller should not be liable under those provisions for calls made by a third-party telemarketer when it has authorized that telemarketer to market its goods or services. In that circumstance, the seller has the ability, through its authorization, to oversee the conduct of its telemarketers, even if that power to supervise is unexercised. In the case of either actions to enforce section 227(b) or actions to enforce do-not-call restrictions under section 227(c), we stress that nothing in this order requires a consumer to provide proof – at the time it files its complaint – that the seller should be held vicariously liable for the offending call."

Id. at ¶¶ 46-47).

49. Accordingly, it is unambiguously clear that an entity can be liable under the TCPA for a call made on its behalf even if the entity or individual did not directly place the call

under a number of theories, including vicarious liability. Under those circumstances, both Defendants are properly deemed to have initiated the call through the person or entity that actually placed the calls.

Willful or Knowing

50. If the court finds that a defendant willfully or knowingly violated the TCPA, the court may, in its discretion, increase the amount of the award to an amount equal to not more than 3 times the amount available under subparagraph (B) of 47 U.S.C. § 227(b)(3).

Proposed Class

- 51. Plaintiff brings this case as a class action pursuant to Fed. R. Civ. P. 23, on behalf of himself and all others similarly situated.
 - 52. Plaintiff brings this case on behalf of the following Classes:

The "Telemarketing Class" All persons within the United States who, within the four years prior to the filing of this Complaint, was sent a marketing or promotional text message made through the use of any automatic telephone dialing system, from Defendants or any of their subsidiaries, or anyone on Defendants' or their subsidiaries' behalf, to said person's cellular telephone number, not for emergency purpose and without the recipient's prior express written consent.

The "Do Not Call Class" All persons within the United States who, within the four years prior to the filing of this Complaint, was sent, from Defendants or any of their subsidiaries, or anyone on Defendants' or their subsidiaries' behalf more than one telephone call to said person's cellular telephone number within any 12-month period, by or on behalf of the same entity, without their prior express consent and to which they object, while listed on the national Do Not Call Registry.

- 53. Plaintiff is a member of both classes.
- 54. Defendants and their employees or agents, Plaintiff's attorneys and their employees, the Judge to whom this action is assigned and any member of the Judge's staff and immediate family,

and claims for personal injury, wrongful death, and/or emotional distress are excluded from the Classes. Plaintiff does not know the number of members in the Classes, but believes the Class members number in the thousands, if not more.

Numerosity

- 55. Upon information and belief, Defendants have placed automated calls to cellular telephone numbers belonging to thousands of consumers throughout the United States without their prior express consent. The members of each Class, therefore, are believed to be so numerous that joinder of all members is impracticable.
- 56. The exact number and identities of the Class members are unknown at this time and can be ascertained only through discovery. Identification of the Class members is a matter capable of ministerial determination from Defendants' callrecords.

Common Questions of Law and Fact

- 57. There are numerous questions of law and fact common to each Class which predominate over any questions affecting only individual members of the Class. Among the questions of law and fact common to the Class are:
 - a) Whether Defendants made non-emergency calls to Plaintiff's and Class members' cellular telephones using an ATDS;
 - b) Whether any of such calls were made to persons whose cellular telephone number is listed on the national do-not-call registry of persons who do not wish to receive telephone solicitations.
 - c) Whether Defendants can meet their burden of showing that they obtained prior express written consent to make such calls;
 - d) Whether Defendants conduct was knowing and willful;

- e) Whether Defendants are liable for damages, and the amount of such damages; and
- f) Whether Defendants should be enjoined from such conduct in the future.
- 58. The common questions in this case are capable of having common answers. If Plaintiff's claim that Defendants routinely transmits text messages to telephone numbers assigned to cellular telephone services is accurate, Plaintiffs and the Class members will have identical claims capable of being efficiently adjudicated and administered in this case.

Typicality

59. Plaintiff's claims are typical of the claims of the Class members, as they are all based on the same factual and legal theories.

Protecting the Interests of the Class Members

60. Plaintiff is a representative who will fully and adequately assert and protect the interests of both Classes, and has retained competent counsel to assist in doing so. Accordingly, Plaintiff is an adequate representative and will fairly and adequately protect the interests of the Classes.

Superiority

- A class action is superior to all other available methods for the fair and efficient adjudication of this lawsuit, because individual litigation of the claims of all members of the Classes are economically unfeasible and procedurally impracticable. While the aggregate damages sustained by the Classes are in the millions of dollars, the individual damages incurred by each Class member resulting from Defendants wrongful conduct are too small to warrant the expense of individual lawsuits. The likelihood of individual Class members prosecuting their own separate claims is remote, and, even if every member of the Class could afford individual litigation, the court system would be unduly burdened by individual litigation of such cases.
 - 62. The prosecution of separate actions by members of the Class would create a risk of

establishing inconsistent rulings and/or incompatible standards of conduct for Defendants. For example, one court might enjoin Defendants from performing the challenged acts, whereas another may not. Additionally, individual actions may be dispositive of the interests of the Class, although certain class members are not parties to such actions.

COUNT I Violation of the TCPA, 47 U.S.C. § 227(b)

- 63. Plaintiff re-alleges and incorporates the preceding paragraphs as if fully set forth herein.
- 64. It is a violation of the TCPA to make "any call (other than a call made for emergency purposes or made with the prior express consent of the called party) using any automatic telephone dialing system ... to any telephone number assigned to a ... cellular telephone service" 47 U.S.C. § 227(b)(1)(A)(iii).
- 65. "Automatic telephone dialing system" refers to any equipment that has the "capacity to dial numbers without human intervention." *See, e.g., Hicks v. Client Servs., Inc.*, No. 07-61822, 2009 WL 2365637, at *4 (S.D. Fla. June 9, 2009) (citing FCC, In re: Rules and Regulations Implementing the Telephone Consumer Protection Act of 1991: Request of ACA International for Clarification and Declaratory Ruling, 07–232, ¶ 12, n.23 (2007)).
- 66. Defendants or third parties directed by Defendants– used equipment having the capacity to dial numbers without human intervention to make marketing telephone calls to the cellular telephones of Plaintiff.
- 67. These calls were made without regard to whether Defendants had first obtained express written consent to make such calls. In fact, Defendants did not have prior express written consent to call the cell phones of Plaintiff when the subject calls were made.

- 68. Defendants therefore, violated § 227(b)(1)(A)(iii) of the TCPA by using an automatic telephone dialing system to make marketing telephone calls to the cell phones of Plaintiff without his prior express written consent.
- 69. All Defendants are directly, jointly, or vicariously liable for each such violation of the TCPA.
- 70. As a result of Defendants conduct and pursuant to § 227(b)(3) of the TCPA, Plaintiff was harmed and is entitled to a minimum of \$500.00 in damages for each violation. Plaintiff is also entitled to an injunction against future calls.

COUNT II Knowing and/or Willful Violation of the TCPA, 47 U.S.C. § 227(b)

- 71. Plaintiff re-alleges and incorporates the preceding paragraphs as if fully set forth herein.
- 72. At all times relevant, Defendant knew or should have known that their conduct as alleged herein violated the TCPA.
- 73. Defendants knew that they did not have prior express written consent to send these text messages.
- 74. Because Defendants knew or should have known that Plaintiff had not given prior express consent to receive its autodialed calls to their cellular telephones, the Court should treble the amount of statutory damages available to Plaintiff pursuant to § 227(b)(3) of the TCPA.
- 75. All Defendants are directly, jointly, or vicariously liable for each such violation of the TCPA.
- 76. As a result of Defendants violations, Plaintiff is entitled to an award of \$1,500.00 in statutory damages, for each and every violation, pursuant to 47 U.S.C. § 227(b)(3)(B) and 47 U.S.C. § 227(b)(3)(C).

COUNT III Violation of 47 C.F.R. §64.1200(c)

- 77. Plaintiff realleges and incorporates the preceding paragraphs of this Complaint as if fully set forth herein.
- 78. Defendants or third parties directed by Defendants, for telemarketing purposes, placed multiple automated text messages to persons whose cellular telephone numbers are listed on the national do-not-call registry of persons who do not wish to receive telephone solicitation.
- 79. Plaintiff received more than one telephone call within any 12-month period, by or on behalf of the Defendants, without their prior express consent and to which they object.
- 80. Defendants therefore, violated 47 C.F.R. § 64.1200(c) by initiating telephone solicitations to person who have registered his or her telephone number on the national do-not-call registry of persons who do not wish to receive telephone solicitations.
- 81. All Defendants are directly, jointly, or vicariously liable for each such violation of the TCPA.
- 82. As a result of Defendants conduct and pursuant to 47 C.F.R. 64.1200(c), Plaintiff was harmed and is entitled to a minimum of \$500.00 in damages for each violation. Plaintiff is also entitled to an injunction against future calls.

WHEREFORE, Plaintiff prays for the following relief:

- A declaration that Defendant practices described herein violate the Telephone Consumer Protection Act, 47 U.S.C. § 227 and the applicable rules promulgated thereunder;
- A declaration that Defendants violations of the Telephone Consumer Protection
 Act, 47 U.S.C. § 227 and the applicable rules promulgated thereunder were
 willful and knowing;

- c) An injunction prohibiting Defendants from using an automatic telephone dialing system to call and text message telephone numbers assigned to cellular telephones without the prior express consent of the called party;
- d) An injunction prohibiting Defendants from making calls and text messages to numbers assigned to the national do not call registry
- e) An award of actual, statutory damages, and/or trebled statutory damages; and
- f) Such further and other relief the Court deems reasonable and just.

JURY DEMAND

Plaintiff hereby demands a trial by jury.

Dated: April 9, 2018

Respectfully submitted,

By: <u>/s/ Jibrael S. Hindi</u>
Jibrael S. Hindi, Esq.
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JS 44 (Rev. 0 Gases Dial Beach of 60767-RNS Docume OIVIL COVERS SHIELS D Docket 04/09/2018 Page 1 of 2

The JS 44 civil cover sheet and the information contained herein neither replace nor supplement the filing and service of pleadings or other papers as required by law, except as provided by local rules of court. This form, approved by the Judicial Conference of the United States in September 1974, is required for the use of the Clerk of Court for the purpose of initiating the civil docket sheet. (SEE INSTRUCTIONS ON NEXT PAGE OF THIS FORM.) NOTICE: Attorneys MUST Indicate All Re-filed Cases Below.

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] 1] 1] 1	(Excl. Veterans) 53 Recovery of Overpayment of Veteran's Benefits 60 Stockholders' Suits 90 Other Contract 95 Contract Product Liability 96 Franchise	□ 345 Marine Product Liability □ 350 Motor Vehicle □ 355 Motor Vehicle Product Liability □ 360 Other Personal Injury □ 362 Personal Injury -	Liability PERSONAL PROPERTY 370 Other Fraud 371 Truth in Lending 380 Other Personal Property Damage 385 Property Damage Product Liability	LABOR ☐ 710 Fair Labor Standards	SOCIAL SECURITY □ 861 HIA (1395ff) □ 862 Black Lung (923) □ 863 DIWC/DIWW (405(g)) □ 864 SSID Title XVI □ 865 RSI (405(g))	Exchange ■ 890 Other Statutory Actions ■ 891 Agricultural Acts ■ 893 Environmental Matters	
	REAL PROPERTY 210 Land Condemnation 220 Foreclosure 230 Rent Lease & Ejectment	Med. Malpractice CIVIL RIGHTS 440 Other Civil Rights 441 Voting 442 Employment	PRISONER PETITIONS Habeas Corpus: □ 463 Alien Detainee □ 510 Motions to Vacate Sentence	791 Empl. Ret. Inc. Security Act	FEDERAL TAX SUITS 870 Taxes (U.S. Plaintiff or Defendant) 871 IRS—Third Party USC 7609		
	240 Torts to Land 245 Tort Product Liability 290 All Other Real Property	□ 443 Housing/ Accommodations □ 445 Amer. w/Disabilities - Employment □ 446 Amer. w/Disabilities - Other □ 448 Education	Other: 530 General 535 Death Penalty 540 Mandamus & Other 550 Civil Rights 555 Prison Condition 560 Civil Detainee Conditions of	IMMIGRATION ☐ 462 Naturalization Applicatio ☐ 465 Other Immigration Actions	n	Agency Decision 950 Constitutionality of State Statutes	
_	ORIGIN 1 Original Proceeding 2 Remon SCourt	state (See VI	Confinement		7 Appeal to District Judge from Magistrate Judgment	8 Multidistrict	
	. RELATED/ C-FILED CASE(S)	(See instructions): a) JUDO		✓NO b) Related 0	Cases □YES ☑NO DOCKET NUMB	ER•	
	I. CAUSE OF ACTION	Cite the U.S. Civil Sta N Telephone Consur	tute under which you are fi mer Protection Act, 47	ling and Write a Brief Stateme, 'U.S.C. §227 et seq. ("T for both sides to try entire case	ent of Cause (Do not cite juriso CCPA")	dictional statutes unless diversity):	
VI	II. REQUESTED IN COMPLAINT:		IS A CLASS ACTION	DEMAND \$	•	ly if demanded in complaint: ✓ Yes □ No	
AB OAT	OVE INFORMATION IS TO April 9, 2018	TRUE & CORRECT TO T		WLEDGE TTORNEY OF RECORD	JUNEAU TENERAL	- L 100	
	R OFFICE USE ONLY	AMOUNT IE	D IUDGE		MAG HIDGE	_	

Save As..

INSTRUCTIONS FOR ATTORNEYS COMPLETING CIVIL COVER SHEET FORM JS 44

Authority For Civil Cover Sheet

The JS 44 civil cover sheet and the information contained herein neither replaces nor supplements the filings and service of pleading or other papers as required by law, except as provided by local rules of court. This form, approved by the Judicial Conference of the United States in September 1974, is required for the use of the Clerk of Court for the purpose of initiating the civil docket sheet. Consequently, a civil cover sheet is submitted to the Clerk of Court for each civil complaint filed. The attorney filing a case should complete the form as follows:

- **I.** (a) Plaintiffs-Defendants. Enter names (last, first, middle initial) of plaintiff and defendant. If the plaintiff or defendant is a government agency, use only the full name or standard abbreviations. If the plaintiff or defendant is an official within a government agency, identify first the agency and then the official, giving both name and title.
- (b) County of Residence. For each civil case filed, except U.S. plaintiff cases, enter the name of the county where the first listed plaintiff resides at the time of filing. In U.S. plaintiff cases, enter the name of the county in which the first listed defendant resides at the time of filing. (NOTE: In land condemnation cases, the county of residence of the "defendant" is the location of the tract of land involved.)
- (c) Attorneys. Enter the firm name, address, telephone number, and attorney of record. If there are several attorneys, list them on an attachment, noting in this section "(see attachment)".
- **II. Jurisdiction**. The basis of jurisdiction is set forth under Rule 8(a), F.R.C.P., which requires that jurisdictions be shown in pleadings. Place an "X" in one of the boxes. If there is more than one basis of jurisdiction, precedence is given in the order shown below.

United States plaintiff. (1) Jurisdiction based on 28 U.S.C. 1345 and 1348. Suits by agencies and officers of the United States are included here.

United States defendant. (2) When the plaintiff is suing the United States, its officers or agencies, place an "X" in this box.

Federal question. (3) This refers to suits under 28 U.S.C. 1331, where jurisdiction arises under the Constitution of the United States, an amendment to the Constitution, an act of Congress or a treaty of the United States. In cases where the U.S. is a party, the U.S. plaintiff or defendant code takes precedence, and box 1 or 2 should be marked.

Diversity of citizenship. (4) This refers to suits under 28 U.S.C. 1332, where parties are citizens of different states. When Box 4 is checked, the citizenship of the different parties must be checked. (See Section III below; federal question actions take precedence over diversity cases.)

- III. Residence (citizenship) of Principal Parties. This section of the JS 44 is to be completed if diversity of citizenship was indicated above. Mark this section for each principal party.
- **IV. Nature of Suit.** Place an "X" in the appropriate box. If the nature of suit cannot be determined, be sure the cause of action, in Section VI below, is sufficient to enable the deputy clerk or the statistical clerks in the Administrative Office to determine the nature of suit. If the cause fits more than one nature of suit, select the most definitive.
- V. Origin. Place an "X" in one of the seven boxes.

Original Proceedings. (1) Cases which originate in the United States district courts.

Removed from State Court. (2) Proceedings initiated in state courts may be removed to the district courts under Title 28 U.S.C., Section 1441. When the petition for removal is granted, check this box.

Refiled (3) Attach copy of Order for Dismissal of Previous case. Also complete VI.

Reinstated or Reopened. (4) Check this box for cases reinstated or reopened in the district court. Use the reopening date as the filing date.

Transferred from Another District. (5) For cases transferred under Title 28 U.S.C. Section 1404(a). Do not use this for within district transfers or multidistrict litigation transfers.

Multidistrict Litigation. (6) Check this box when a multidistrict case is transferred into the district under authority of Title 28 U.S.C. Section 1407. When this box is checked, do not check (5) above.

Appeal to District Judge from Magistrate Judgment. (7) Check this box for an appeal from a magistrate judge's decision.

Remanded from Appellate Court. (8) Check this box if remanded from Appellate Court.

- VI. Related/Refiled Cases. This section of the JS 44 is used to reference related pending cases or re-filed cases. Insert the docket numbers and the corresponding judges name for such cases.
- VII. Cause of Action. Report the civil statute directly related to the cause of action and give a brief description of the cause. **Do not cite jurisdictional statutes unless diversity**. Example: U.S. Civil Statute: 47 USC 553

Brief Description: Unauthorized reception of cable service

VIII. Requested in Complaint. Class Action. Place an "X" in this box if you are filing a class action under Rule 23, F.R.Cv.P.

Demand. In this space enter the dollar amount (in thousands of dollars) being demanded or indicate other demand such as a preliminary injunction.

Jury Demand. Check the appropriate box to indicate whether or not a jury is being demanded.

Date and Attorney Signature. Date and sign the civil cover sheet.

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT

for the

Southern District of Florida				
KIP BARNETT, individually and on behalf of all others similarly situated Plaintiff(s) v. PREMTECH, LLC, a Georgia Limited Liability Company et al. Defendant(s) SUMMONS I))))) Civil Action No. 0:18cv60767)))))) NA CIVIL ACTION			
Beimions	IVA CIVIL ACTION			
To: (Defendant's name and address) PREMTECH, LLC 455 E Paces Ferry Rd N Suite 325 Atlanta, GA 30305	E			
A lawsuit has been filed against you.				
Within 21 days after service of this summons on you (not counting the day you received it) — or 60 days if you are the United States or a United States agency, or an officer or employee of the United States described in Fed. R. Civ. P. 12 (a)(2) or (3) — you must serve on the plaintiff an answer to the attached complaint or a motion under Rule 12 of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure. The answer or motion must be served on the plaintiff or plaintiff's attorney, whose name and address are: The Law Offices of Jibrael S. Hindi, PLLC. 110 SE 6th St., Suite 1744, Fort Lauderdale, FL 33301. Phone: (844)542-7235 Email: jibrael@jibraellaw.com Fax: (855)529-9540				
If you fail to respond, judgment by default will be entered against you for the relief demanded in the complaint. You also must file your answer or motion with the court. **CLERK OF COURT**				
Date:				
	Signature of Clerk or Deputy Clerk			

AO 440 (Rev. 06/12) Summons in a Civil Action (Page 2)

Additional information regarding attempted service, etc:

Civil Action No. 0:18cv60767

PROOF OF SERVICE

(This section should not be filed with the court unless required by Fed. R. Civ. P. 4 (l))

was re	This summons for (name ceived by me on (date)	ne of individual and title, if any	·					
	☐ I personally served	the summons on the indi						
			on (date)	; or				
	☐ I left the summons a	at the individual's residen	nce or usual place of abode with (name)					
		, a person of suitable age and discretion who resides there,						
	on (date)	, and mailed a c	opy to the individual's last known address; or					
	☐ I served the summo	ns on (name of individual)		, who i	S			
	designated by law to a	accept service of process	on behalf of (name of organization)					
			on (date)	; or				
	☐ I returned the summ	nons unexecuted because		; O	r			
	☐ Other (<i>specify</i>):							
	My fees are \$	for travel and \$	for services, for a total of \$	0.00				
	I declare under penalty of perjury that this information is true.							
Date:		_			_			
			Server's signature					
			Printed name and title		=			
		_	Server's address		-			

Print Save As... Reset

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT

for the

Southern District of Florida				
KIP BARNETT, individually and on behalf of all others similarly situated Plaintiff(s) v. PREMTECH, LLC, a Georgia Limited Liability Company et al. Defendant(s)))))) Civil Action No. 0:18cv60767)))))) NA CIVIL ACTION			
SUMMONS	N A CIVIL ACTION			
To: (Defendant's name and address) BRANDON MINTZ 17888 67th Court N Loxahatchee, FL 33470				
A lawsuit has been filed against you.				
Within 21 days after service of this summons on you (not counting the day you received it) — or 60 days if you are the United States or a United States agency, or an officer or employee of the United States described in Fed. R. Civ. P. 12 (a)(2) or (3) — you must serve on the plaintiff an answer to the attached complaint or a motion under Rule 12 of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure. The answer or motion must be served on the plaintiff or plaintiff's attorney, whose name and address are: The Law Offices of Jibrael S. Hindi, PLLC. 110 SE 6th St., Suite 1744, Fort Lauderdale, FL 33301. Phone: (844)542-7235 Email: jibrael@jibraellaw.com Fax: (855)529-9540				
If you fail to respond, judgment by default will be entered against you for the relief demanded in the complaint. You also must file your answer or motion with the court. **CLERK OF COURT**				
Dotor				
Date:	Signature of Clerk or Deputy Clerk			

AO 440 (Rev. 06/12) Summons in a Civil Action (Page 2)

Civil Action No. 0:18cv60767

PROOF OF SERVICE

(This section should not be filed with the court unless required by Fed. R. Civ. P. 4 (l))

was rec	This summons for (neeived by me on (date)	ame of individual and title, if an	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·		
	☐ I personally serve	ed the summons on the ind			
			on (date)	; or	
	☐ I left the summon	as at the individual's reside	ence or usual place of abode with (name)		
		,	a person of suitable age and discretion v	who resides the	ere,
	on (date)	, and mailed a	copy to the individual's last known addre	ess; or	
	☐ I served the summ	nons on (name of individual)			, who is
	designated by law to	o accept service of process	on behalf of (name of organization)		_
			on (date)	; or	
	☐ I returned the sun	nmons unexecuted because			; or
	☐ Other (specify):				
	My fees are \$	for travel and \$	for services, for a tota	nl of \$().00 .
	I declare under pena	lty of perjury that this info	rmation is true.		
Date:					
			Server's signature		
		_	Printed name and title	,	
		_	Server's address		

Additional information regarding attempted service, etc:

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ClassAction.org

This complaint is part of ClassAction.org's searchable class action lawsuit database and can be found in this post: <u>Bitcoin Depot Pegged with TCPA Class Action Over Alleged Robo-Texts</u>